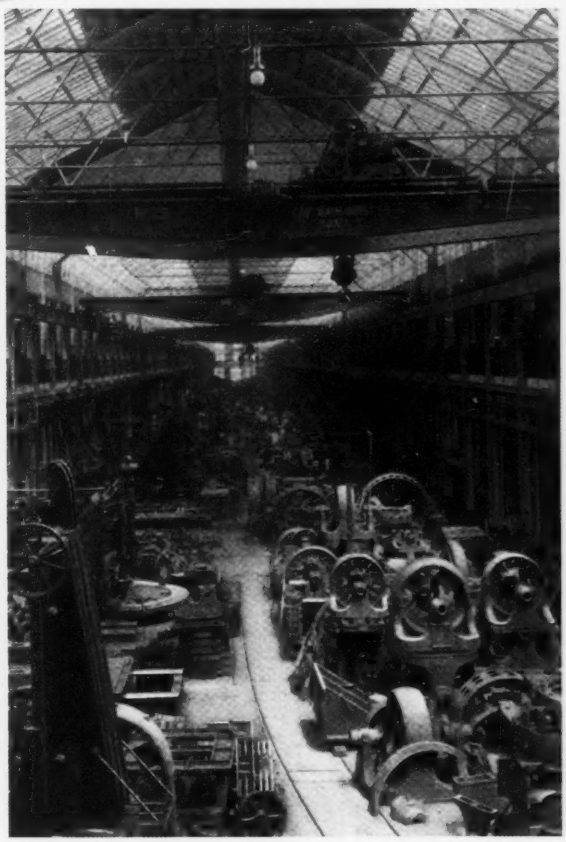
Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 56, No. 4 Published Biweekly February 24, 1997

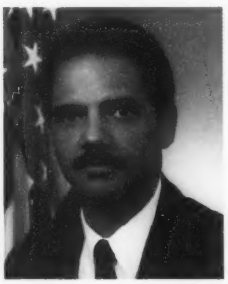


Collections from American Memory

Library of Congress
INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 56, No. 4
February 24, 1997

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress



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On the Cover: Harry Houdini performs the "Milk Can Escape," ca. 1908; a circa 1904 photo of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. *From the Library of Congress American Memory on-line collections*

Cover Stories: Last fall, new American Memory Collections debuted on the Library's Web site. This issue takes an in-depth look at "The American Variety Stage: Vaudeville and Popular Entertainment, 1870-1920," which includes materials relating to the career of Harry Houdini, and at turn-of-the-century films of a Westinghouse factory in Pittsburgh. 70

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Exhibition Preview: An on-line preview of the exhibition "American Treasures of the Library of Congress" will be available next month. 85

Keeping Time: The schedule of concerts from the Library is available from a new home page. 85

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued biweekly except in August (no issues published) and in December (one issue published) by the Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies and allied organizations in the United States. It is also available over the Internet. On World Wide Web, use the following address: gopher://marvel.loc.gov/11/loc/pubs/lcib. On Gopher, connect to marvel.loc.gov and look under "Events, Facilities, Publications and Services."

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC Information Bulletin, Public Affairs Office, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave, S.E., Washington, DC 20540-1610.

GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
SHARON WINFIELD, Production

LC Submits FY 1998 Budget Request

Increase of 7.1 Percent Proposed

The Library on Feb. 12 asked Congress to approve a fiscal 1998 budget of $387.6 million (including authority to use $30.4 million in receipts) to sustain basic services to Congress and the nation.

"The Library currently faces the fundamental challenge of effecting a full transition to the new electronic services and more efficient operations required for the Information Age while, at the same time, continuing to sustain its basic services," Dr. Billington said in his prepared statement.

Representing a $25.7 million (7.1 percent) increase from the fiscal 1997 budget, the proposed new budget would include:

- $14.7 million to pay for mandatory pay raises and unavoidable price-level increases;
- $6.1 million for automation projects, including $5.6 million for a modern electronic Integrated Library System that would provide inventory control and improve the efficiency of core library functions, including acquisitions, cataloging, collections security and circulation;
- $1.3 million to continue security initiatives, including additional police officers to secure newly renovated space and funds to expand the reader registration program with two reader registration stations, one in the Jefferson Building and one in the Madison Building;
- funds for additional full-time equivalent positions to ensure that service will continue to Congress and the nation after employees reach retirement age;
- a temporary increase of $500,000 for manpower to enable the Copyright Office to process copyright registrations at an acceptable pace; and
- $2.5 million for an additional 10,000 talking book machines to ensure their availability for blind and physically handicapped persons;

Dr. Billington and senior Library officials appeared before the House Legislative Branch Appropriations subcommittee, chaired by Rep. James T. Walsh (R-N.Y.), on Feb. 12.

In his prepared statement submitted to the subcommittee, Dr. Billington noted that although Congress has been "extremely supportive" of the Library during the past several austere budget years, the Library has lost 435 (10 percent) of its appropriated full-time equivalent (FTE) positions since fiscal 1992.

In its fiscal 1998 budget request, the Library seeks funding for 25 additional FTEs in the Congressional Research Service (CRS) as part of a multiyear succession plan (nearly 52 percent of the CRS staff will be eligible to retire by 2006); three additional FTEs to support expansion of the Global Legal Information Network; 14 temporary additional FTEs for the Copyright Office (a staff of 628 FTEs processed 483,000 copyright claims in 1980; a staff of 471 FTEs processed 609,000 claims in 1996); and 18 additional FTEs to reduce Library Police overtime and provide additional security coverage.

Following are excerpts of Dr. Billington's statement submitted to the Subcommittee on Legislative Appropriations, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. House of Representatives, in support of the Library's fiscal 1998 budget request:

The Library's first priority is to make knowledge available and useful to the U.S. Congress. This primary purpose can be realized only if the Library also preserves, secures, and sustains its incomparable collections for present and future use. These two activities are the top priorities ... closely followed by the imperative to make the Library's resources maximally accessible to the American people. The Library's ability to continue meeting these priorities rests on its ability to modernize its infrastructure and to advance its use of technology.

The Library requests $387.6 million (including $30.4 million in authority to use receipts) for fiscal year 1998.

This is an increase of 7.1 percent over fiscal 1997; it includes $14.7 million to fund mandatory pay raises and unavoidable price-level increases and $11 million to meet critical growing workload increases (net of program decreases).

We are requesting this year new funds for:

1. a modern electronic Integrated Library System (ILS) that will provide inventory control and vastly improve the efficiency of core library functions including acquisitions, cataloging, collections security and circulation and will ultimately save money;
2. continued implementation of our highest priority security initiatives, including additional police to cover newly renovated space and additional staff for an expanded reader registration program;
3. a temporary increase in additional FTEs and funds to support our staff succession plan to help ensure continuity of high-quality congressional and national services;
4. a temporary increase of $500,000 for the Copyright Office to maintain registration processing at an acceptable level; and
5. the purchase of an additional 10,000 talking book machines to ensure the continued availability of the equipment for blind and physically handicapped people.

The actual number of appropriated full-time equivalent (FTE) positions has declined by 435, or 10 percent, since fiscal 1992. The Library's budget has simply not increased enough to support the same number of FTEs that were funded in fiscal 1992.

In fiscal 1997 the Library will shift some resources, with congressional approval, to address general management improvements and security initiatives recommended in two recent GAO-commissioned reports (a management review by Booz-Allen & Hamilton and a financial audit by Price Waterhouse LLP). Because the Library did not receive price-level increases in fiscal 1997 and must

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News from the National Digital Library

LC Web Sites Among Top 100

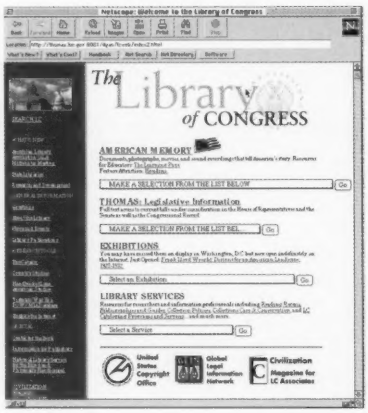
The Library's home page, which appeared on the Internet Feb. 13 in a new design, has been named one of the top Web sites in the country once again.

The Library site, plus the THOMAS site, ranked among the top 100 Web sites selected by *PC Magazine* for mention in its Feb. 18 cover story, "The Best of the Web."

Said article author Karen Bannan: "*PC Magazine*'s editors have put in the hours examining thousands of Web sites to determine which offer the most compelling mix of content, creative design, and cutting-edge technology." The editors then divided selections into five categories—commerce, computing, entertainment, news and reference.

For the reference category, the editors selected the Library's home page (www.loc.gov) and THOMAS (thomas.loc.gov), which offers legislative information on-line.

Said *PC Magazine* about LC's Web site: "The American government's oldest cultural institution is thriving on



pop culture's newest medium. The Library of Congress site provides the national citizenry with search access to its massive catalog, a guide to the U.S. Copyright Office and an expansive database of current legislative information. No matter what your distance from Washington, you can examine the inscriptions and quotations that litter the Library's walls, peruse its current exhibitions or familiarize yourself with its myriad paintings and sculptures. Surely Jefferson would approve of such democratic access to his most famous legacy."

PC Magazine says this about THOMAS: "If you want to keep an eye on what your government is doing, this is the best place to go. Want to know what bills are close to becoming laws or whether your taxes will be going up or down? You can find all legislation of the current (105th) and previous sessions of Congress, along with the *Congressional Record* and Committee Reports for each of those sessions. When looking for legislation, you can use keywords to search for concepts or sponsors. You can also narrow your query to bills in the House or Senate, bills that were subjects of floor action, or bills that were signed into law. A Historical Documents area will give you the background on what's going on and why something is ruled unconstitutional."

Librarian of Congress Names Kenneth E. Lopez Director of Security

Dr. Billington has named Kenneth E. Lopez director of security for the Library of Congress. Mr. Lopez will assume his duties Feb. 18.

"Ken Lopez has a distinguished record of accomplishment in the federal security field," said Dr. Billington. "His broad experience in all facets of security management will stand us in good stead as we continue our progress in protecting the staff, the collections and our facilities."

Mr. Lopez will report directly to the Deputy Librarian and be responsible for all aspects of the Library's security programs. He will complete the development of the Library's Security Management Plan, develop comprehensive security policies and regulations, maintain performance standards for security personnel and establish a comprehensive security training program.

Mr. Lopez comes to the Library after five years as director of security for the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice. He has a total of 23 years experience in security for federal agencies.

Born in Concord, Calif., in 1943, Mr. Lopez graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles with a B.A. degree in urban geography. He served in the Army in 1966-71 as an armored cavalry platoon leader in Vietnam and later as an intelligence officer in Washington. He was released to inactive duty with the rank of captain, later retiring from the Army Reserve as a lieutenant colonel.

He rose through the ranks in security posts in the Federal Aviation Administration (1973-78), the Department of Health and Human Services (1978-81) and the John F. Kennedy Space Center in Florida (1986-92) before assuming his position at the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Mr. Lopez resides in Alexandria, Va., and has three children.

U.S. Attorney Urges Responsible Behavior

Eric Holder Delivers African American Keynote

Stressing the importance of personal responsibility, Eric H. Holder Jr., U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, on Feb. 5 delivered the keynote address for African American History Month at the Library.

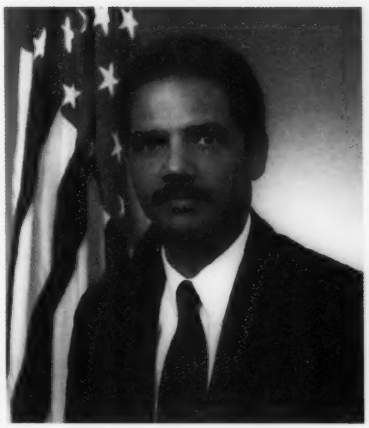
The theme of this year's celebration, "African American Civil Rights: A Reappraisal," was developed by the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History Inc.

Speaking to a packed Mumford Room audience, the 46-year-old Mr. Holder said, "In discussing black history we must be cognizant of its current nature."

"History can be used as a tool to understand a present that at times seems frightening and illogical, "The seeds of our inner cities' present distress can be found in the way this nation has dealt with its black inhabitants over the years. But this same population has done much to contribute to its present situation."

Before introduceing the speaker, Dr. Billington noted the many African American cultural treasures housed at the Library and saluted the contributions of his African American colleagues. He also discussed the Library's plans to mount a major African American exhibition, in the spring of 1998, based on the Library's collections.

The U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia is responsible for prosecuting local as well as federal crime and heads the largest office of federal prosecutors in the country. Eric Holder was born in New York City in 1951, attended public schools there, and in 1969 graduated with a Regents Scholarship from Stuyvesant High School. Majoring in American history, he graduated from Columbia College in 1973 and received his law degree from Columbia Law School in 1976. While studying law, Holder clerked for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice. Upon graduation, he moved to Washington and in 1988 was appointed by President Reagan to serve as a D.C. Superior Court Judge, a position he held for five years. In 1993 President Clinton appointed Holder to his current position. He is an active member of Concerned Black Men, a volunteer organization dedicated to working with disadvantaged black youth in the nation's capital.



Eric Holder Jr.

"Black America stands today at a crossroads," Mr. Holder said. "A valiant past filled with courage and struggle is being replaced by irresponsible behavior and passive acceptance."

He told his listeners that African Americans must confront the problems of crime and violence in inner cities. Specifically, he noted that although young black men comprise 1 percent of America's population, they make up 18 percent of the victims of violent crime. Today, he said, blacks are being victimized by blacks and noted that 90 percent of black homicide victims nationwide die at the hands of blacks. He called the situation a "truly sad" chapter in black history.

Mr. Holder focused on two major problems in the black community: the AIDS epidemic and the surge of unwed, teenage mothers. "Sexual conduct is voluntary and can be controlled. ... By being more responsible these problems could be largely cured."

Citing statistics showing that unwed women are giving birth to 67 percent of the black babies born in the United States, he noted an even more serious situation in some parts of Washington, where 80 percent of black children are born to unwed mothers. "This problem tears at the very fabric of the black community."

"There is a direct link between poverty and the social problems that so bedevil us ... and at least part of the poverty problem is self-inflicted and can be controlled by self-restraint." He continued, "We focus on women as if they created children without the assistance of men," and recalled that when he was a Superior Court judge, almost every young black criminal defendant who came before him had no father in his life. He said that boys need male role models in the home if they are to grow up to be responsible men. And he urged African American men to embrace family values.

Turning to the 1960s and '70s, he said, "Today, we would not recognize the America that existed before the civil rights movement." He reminded his audience of the earlier years of separate facilities, segregated schools, poll taxes and, worst of all, the exclusion of blacks from the mainstream of American life. He referred to this period as "American apartheid."

He noted the strong link between blacks and the rest of American society and predicted that the problems of African Americans of today may be an indication of where the rest of

Continued on page 82

Great Escapes

American Memory Web Site Hosts Houdini Collection

by Joan Higbee

Last fall, 70 years after the death of Harry Houdini, the Library of Congress released a home page devoted to the legendary magician as part of its American Memory on-line collections.

Here, more than 140 high-resolution graphics and documents, derived from primary source materials in multiple Library collections, chronicle an extraordinary life. Those who visit the site (http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/) encounter Houdini through images and text masterminded by the illusionist as he effected his metamorphosis from unknown sideshow performer to international celebrity.

A formidable collector, Houdini willed his holdings on magic and spiritualism to the Library of Congress. The special relationship that he forged with the nation's library through this remarkable gift gives a person dimension to Houdini's return to the world stage via cyberspace.

The other major source for Houdini on-line is the McManus-Young Collection, also in the Rare Book and Special Collections Division. John J. and Hanna McManus, and Morris N. and Chesley V. Young jointly presented their 20,000-item magic collection to the Library in 1955. The on-line Houdini site contains 143 photographs and 29 related items of memorabilia.

Houdini was born Erik Weisz in Budapest, Hungary, on March 24, 1874. His family soon immigrated to the American Midwest, where his father became the first rabbi of a new congregation in Appleton, Wis. American immigration officials changed Weisz to Weiss. As a young man, known as Ehrich Weiss, the aspiring magician selected his own name and persona — Houdini. He did this to establish his relationship to the father of modern magic — the French 19th century master conjurer Jean-Eugene Robert-Houdin. A consummate showman, Robert-Houdin had brought magic from its historic venues of public fairs and private parlors to open performance on the stage. "A magician," he wrote, "is an actor playing the role of a magician."

This photo of Houdini being secured in a straitjacket at the start of an escape, ca. 1920, is one of the more than140 items available to the public on-line from the Library's Houdini Collection.

Houdini began his career in dime museums, home to curiosity shows and unknown acts. He rose to fame in vaudeville and founded his own motion picture company, creating a legacy of daring escapes on film. In 1899 impresario Martin Beck employed Houdini to work for the Orpheum (vaudeville) Circuit, suggesting that the magician shed traditional conjuring in favor of what Houdini would later call "escapology." Becoming internationally famous for exploits that proved the impossible possible, he further established himself as a master of seance magic, exposing fraudulent mediums by replicating their illusions as part of his own show.

A person of many accomplishments, Houdini in 1910 was acclaimed as the first person to pilot a plane over Australia. The magic of early flight, he wrote, was in the "glorious thrill" of first adventure, and "not in minor modification, which is perpetual with any art."

The new Library of Congress digital Houdini Collection offers, as a special feature, a biographical chronology

Harry Houdini during the period when he developed escapes such as the "Milk Can Escape" and the "Upside-Down Water Torture Cell Escape," 1913(?).

Harry Houdini and his wife and partner, Beatrice Houdini, ca. 1922

After being persuaded to abandon traditional magic tricks in favor of developing the art of "escapology," Houdini became known as the "Handcuff King," ca. 1905.

with embedded links to holdings and to hypertext. Visitors to the Web site who use this configuration to explore materials follow the great magician through six transformational periods.

1878 to 1898: From Hungary to America, the First Stage

This section begins with a postcard written by the future "Genius of Escape Who Will Startle and Amaze" when he ran away from home at the age of 12. It presents pages from the Bible of his father, Rabbi Mayer Samuel Weiss, and includes a photograph of the mother he adored, Cecilia Steiner Weiss. This was a time of poverty, hardship, great family love and determination. Images from these early years show a resolute young man adapting to a country radically different from his parents' homeland. They depict him working to develop the physical stamina, dexterity, showmanship and persona that would take him from the bottom of performance venues to the top of the vaudeville stage.

At his side emerges a figure of intelligence and spirit, his wife, Wilhelmina Beatrice Rahner Houdini. Also present during his early youth is the brother who would follow him into magic, Theodore Hardeen, born Ferencz Deszo Weisz on March 4, 1876 (images of Houdini's wife and brother

Houdini, suspended from Keith's Theater, across the street from the Treasury Building, draws a crowd to witness his upside down straitjacket escape, 1922.

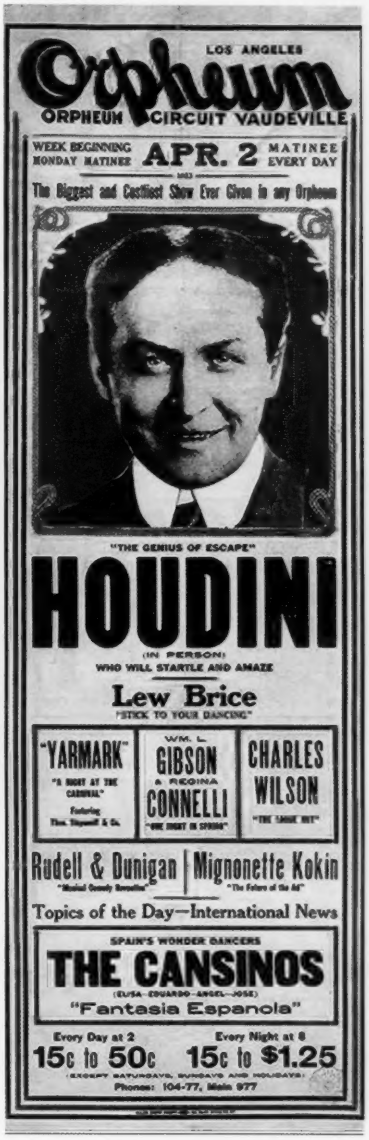
are available from the Web site). Already evident are the influence of Robert-Houdin and reports on the techniques and deceptions of fraudulent spiritualism.

1899-1907: Vaudeville and Fame

The year 1899 was a turn in the life of Houdini: Martin Beck persuaded the struggling performer to put aside traditional magic, such as card tricks, and to concentrate on escapes. Now the "King of Handcuffs" came to the fore. Images present the Houdini family on the brink of prosperity and document the magician's emergence in Europe as a star. Letterheads, photographs and a vibrant poster from the Berlin Wintergarten give graphic evidence of an intense, creative life. Returning to New York City, Houdini bought a brownstone house in the German section of Harlem. When, on Jan. 7, 1906, he escaped from the Washington, D.C., jail cell that had once held Charles Guiteau — the assassin of President Garfield — the magician's reputation as both a jail-breaker and Handcuff King was assured. Now an established performer, he could reflect on the history of magic and undertake his own publications. He also prepared himself to do submersion escapes.

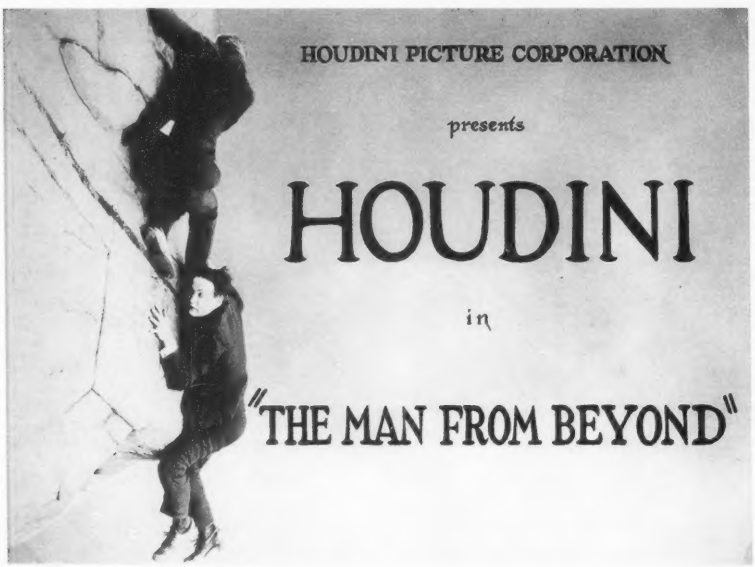
1908-1918: The World Stage

In 1908 Houdini published *The Unmasking of Robert-Houdin*, an attack upon his former hero and, on a nobler level, a sweeping history of magic.



A lobby poster with a portrait of Houdini from vaudeville's Orpheum Circuit, 1923.

The Web site features a 1908 portrait of Houdini holding a copy of the book, of which he was very proud. *The Unmasking* included references to spiritualism that he subsequently explored in *A Magician Among the Spirits*. Houdini



Houdini found a refuge from a changing vaudeville in silent film, (left) a 1921 poster from "The Man from Beyond"; Houdini and the cast and crew of the first Houdini Picture Corp. film, "The Man from Beyond," on location at Niagara Falls, May 1921.

developed and performed the "Milk Can Escape," the "Weed Tire Grip Chain Escape," manacled bridge jumps and the "Upside-Down Water Torture Cell Escape"; all these feats can be viewed on-line. In his spare time he positioned himself as a pioneer aviator and made his flight over Australia; a photo shows the trophy he received in 1910. Houdini performed his largest stage illusion in 1918, vanishing Jenny the elephant at New York's Hippo-

drome. Always ready to embellish a sensation, he claimed that she weighed 10,000 pounds. The on-line photo shows Houdini, arms outstretched, standing below the elephant as it rears on its hind legs.

1919-1922: Silent Film

Beatrice and Harry Houdini celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in 1919. A portrait of the formal event at the Alexandria Hotel features the Houdinis, resplendently garbed, seated in front of a long table where their equally resplendent guests had gathered.

One year later, Funk and Wagnall's New Dictionary turned the name Houdini into a verb, Houdinize, which means "to release or extricate oneself from confinement, bonds or the like, as by wriggling out." Houdini's letterhead, seen on the Web site, proudly proclaims this fact.

An advertising poster from the financially successful 1919 film "The Master of Mystery." In the serial, Houdini plays an employee of the U.S. Justice Department.

During this period, Houdini began to star in silent films. First there was "The Master Mystery"; then "The Grim Game." In 1921 the magician founded the Houdini Picture Corp. Its first film was "The Man from Beyond."

1920-1926: Mediums and Magic

Houdini's formal education was slight; his self education immense. The magician had a great love of books and of research and built a formidable personal library. When, in the 1920s, he strode into the public arena to confront fraudulent mediums, he proceeded from a home lined with books and manuscripts about their methods of deception. Visitors to the on-line collection can view a July 31, 1925, letter in which Houdini describes his extensive library of letters and documents related to spiritualism. His attacks stemmed from both shameless self-promotion and sincere commitment to the public good. Photographs in the digital Houdini Collection show his exposures of a rich panoply of psychic fraud: slate writing, spirit photographs, fingerprinting a spirit and trumpet mediums, who would transmit voices through the musical instrument. Articles and images present Houdini's greatest challenge — Mina Crandon, the medium known as Margery. A woman who fooled one established academic mind after another, she found her greatest champion in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Houdini was never able to expose her as an outright fraud, but he did block her progress.

1926: Change of Venues

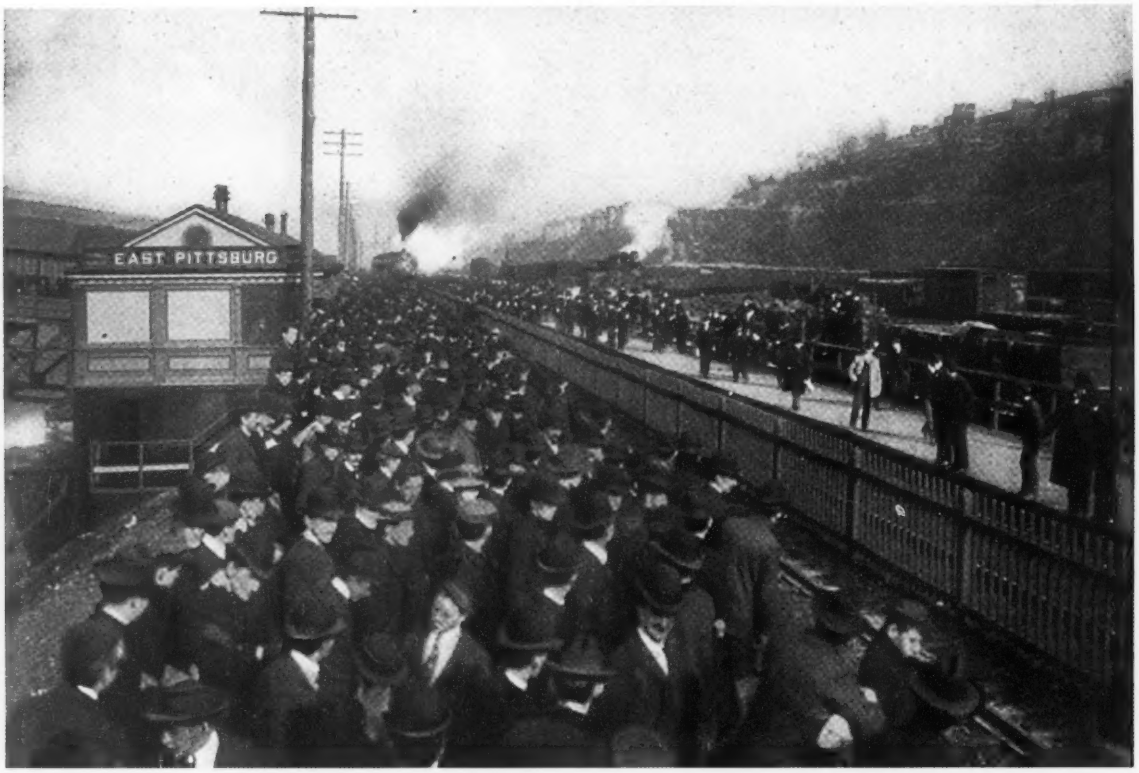
Houdini died of peritonitis on Oct. 31, 1926, in Detroit. Reports of his death showed that the man of mystery could never be reduced to "facts" or captured by linear text. Newspapers throughout the country carried the news of his death. Two examples, available on-line, are an article from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "Death Claims Balk in Battle to Break Shackles of Grim Reaper," and another from the *Long Beach Press-Telegram*, "Houdini Keeps His Secrets: Tricks Go to Grave with Magician."

Nevil Maskelyne, the early-20th century theoretician of magic wrote that the characteristic of any magic feat is that something or somebody is caused to pass mysteriously from one place or condition to another. The magician's audience, Maskelyne said, "is interested in witnessing events which have no relation to common experience and are engendered by a being who possesses a power far beyond their own."

Performance magic as an art requires that the ability and mental attitude of the magician be equal to the expectations of this audience.

Houdini's were. But he always insisted upon the purely human nature of his art. He gleaned ideas for performance tricks from mediums. Through replication, he also exposed as fraudulent the field of seance magic. He emphasized the responsibility of magicians to acknowledge that magic is a purely human skill and to expose mediums who claimed their illusions were the result of contact with the world beyond. The Houdini Collection in cyberspace is derived from his legacy of imagination, curiosity and devotion to magic as a performing art.

—Joan Higbee, who is the editor of the on-line Houdini database, is a reference specialist in the Rare Book and Special Collections Reading Room.



Workers returning home from Westinghouse's Electric and Maufacturing Co. in East Pittsburgh, Pa., 1904

Inside an American Factory
The Westinghouse Works in 1904

by Karen C. Lund

Users of the Library's American Memory on-line collections can learn a great deal about America's industrial might at the turn of the century through motion pictures of the Westinghouse Works.

The films were produced by the American Mutoscope and Biograph Co. in 1904 and were photographed by renowned early motion picture cameraman G.W. (Billy) Bitzer. They show numerous views of the Westinghouse companies located east of Pittsburgh in Wilmerding and East Pittsburgh, namely the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co., the Westinghouse Air Brake Co. and the Westinghouse Machine Co. The films feature the companies' operations and were apparently made as part of the Westinghouse exhibits at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis in 1904. Catalogs from the American Mutoscope and Biograph Co. indicate that at least 29 films were made of the Westinghouse Works, of which the Library has 21.

The films were the first to use successfully the Cooper Hewitt Mercury Vapor Lamp, which was manufactured by the Cooper Hewitt Electric Co., a Westinghouse company in New York. This innovation made possible the lighting of many interior scenes inside the factories.

The films were made when the Westinghouse enterprise had grown to include many companies in the United States and abroad, indeed, when the Westinghouse Works could arguably be said to be at its peak. The companies were working on high-profile projects and production was high and working conditions were considered to be progressive and fair.

The Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co., for example, provided the generator apparatus for the subway and the elevated railways in New York and the South Side Elevated

Railroad in Chicago. The company also provided the equipment for the conversion of the Niagara Falls into electrical power and generators for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

Organized in 1886 with a force of 200 men, the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. had grown by 1904 to include 9,000 workers at the main plant and 3,000 additional employees at branch factories. It became the largest of the Westinghouse companies and was thought to be the largest and most modern workshop in the world at the time the American Mutoscope and Biograph Co. filmed its operations. The main function of the company, according to promotional literature of 1905, was to develop and produce "apparatus for the generation, transmission and application of alternating current electricity."

The motion pictures show scenes from the plant in East Pittsburgh. The total floor space was more than 2 million square feet. Scenes of long aisles with large machines in various stages of construction can be seen in these films. Different steps in the construction of generators are exhibited by male and female workers. Traveling cranes with capacities ranging from 30 to 50 tons each loom overhead, carrying heavy equipment, and are most probably where the motion picture cameras and lights were mounted for the filming of the long aisles.

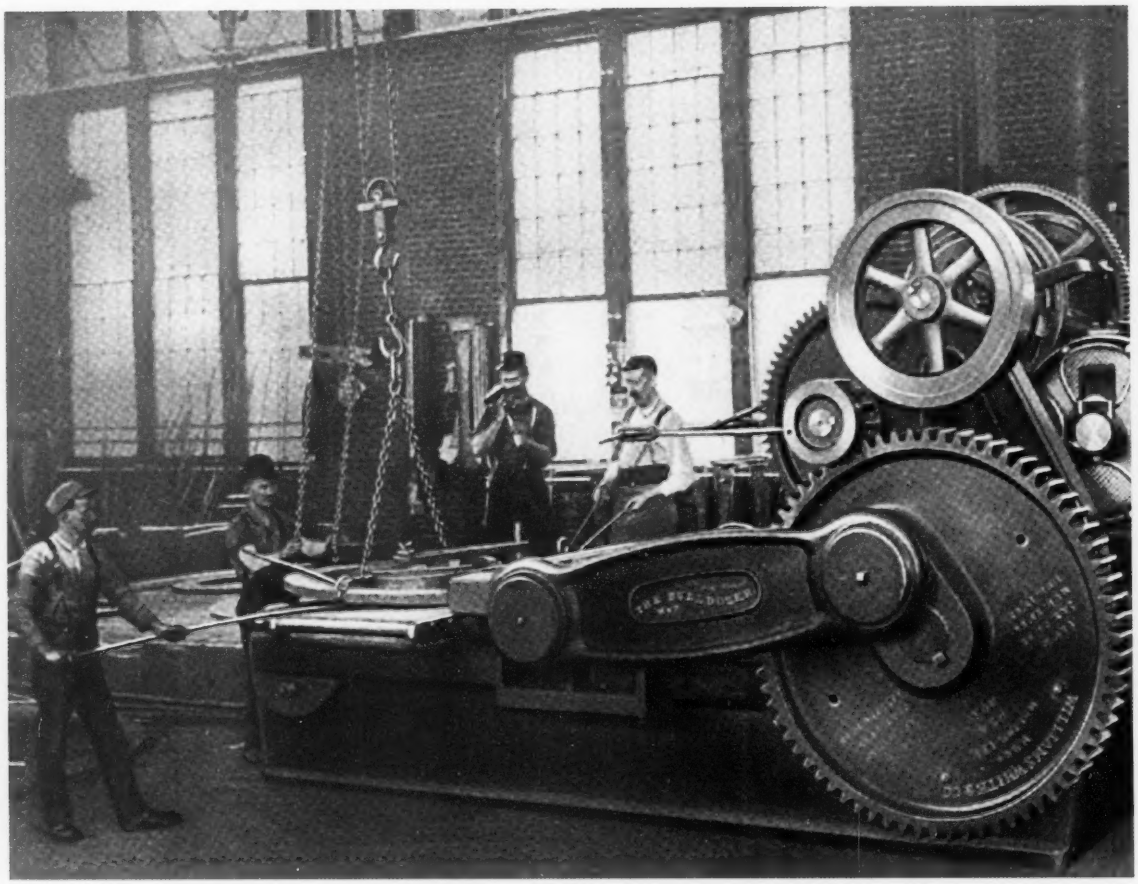
Long aisle shots are also available of the Westinghouse Machine Co., along with scenes of men assembling and testing turbine engines. Views of foundry work that the company performed in Trafford City are also shown.

Organized in 1881, the Westinghouse Machine Co. was devoted primarily to the manufacture of gas and steam engines, turbines and mechanical stokers. The main works were in East Pittsburgh, and the company employed approximately 3,500 men by 1905. The uses of the equipment this company manufactured were varied: gas engines were used to power interurban railways and fire service pumping stations, while steam engines were used frequently by the railway industry.

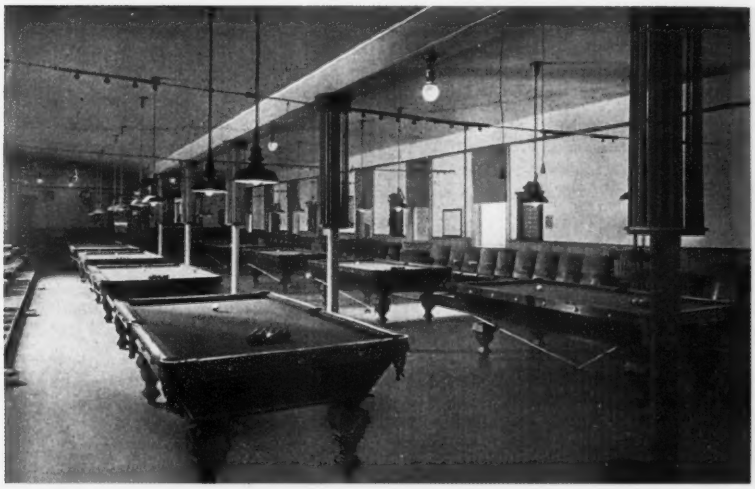
The earliest of the Westinghouse companies, the Westinghouse Air Brake Co., was formed to manufacture one of George Westinghouse's best-known inventions in 1869. The air brake had revolutionized the railroad industry, making braking a safer venture and thus permitting trains to travel at higher speeds. By 1889 the company had moved to Wilmerding to a plant comprising more than 9 acres of floor space. By 1905 approximately 3,000 workers were employed there making various types of air and automatic brakes for the railway industry. Wilmerding became very much a "company town" with its fortunes ris-

Teams of men in a 1904 film of the Westinghouse Air Brake Co. carry buckets of molten material and pour it into molds lined up on the floor of the plant.

This film by the American Mutoscope and Biograph Co. shows women punching in at the Westinghouse plant in 1904 for their jobs as coil-winders.



Workers at the Electric and Maufacturing Co. shaping a large iron ring in the blacksmith's shop; (right) it was possible to film interior scenes, such as this one of women in Westinghouse's mica slitting department, for the first time because cinematographers could use the recently manufactured Mercury Vapor Lamp as a reliable light source.



Along with its manufacturing prowess, Westinghouse took pride in its enlightened attitude toward its employees. The company provided inexpensive dining facilities, bowling alleys and even a pool hall for East Pittsburgh workers.

ing and falling with that of the Air Brake Co. The company even built houses for its employees and buildings for town activities.

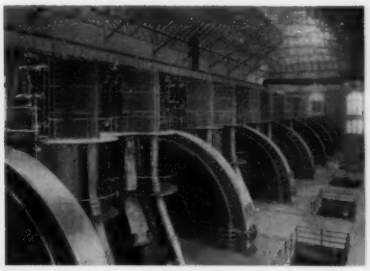
The companies that made up the Westinghouse Works prided themselves on being progressive and modern in their working conditions. The Air Brake Co., for example, was one of the first companies to institute the nine-hour workday, the 55-hour workweek and a half-day holiday on Saturday afternoons. The company also provided housing for many of its employees at affordable cost. The company set up courses and activities for its employees and even offered cash awards for beautification of the town. The Air Brake Co. also set up its own relief department in 1903, the intent being to ensure an income for employees who might become ill or injured or to pay their beneficiaries in the event of death.

In a similar fashion, the Electric and Manufacturing Co. prided itself on the sanitary condition of its shop, washrooms, toilet rooms and wells of drinking water for employee use. Recreational rooms, clubs and a library were also established for the workers. Several of the films also show the large number of female workers employed by the company in various types of assembly jobs.

By promoting various social welfare policies and good working conditions, it was hoped by the Westinghouse companies that they could lower the worker attrition rate, attract a better type of employee and keep the unions out of their factories. This preemptive action failed with the rise of unionism in the United States. Even the Westinghouse companies, with their progressive working conditions, had labor problems that led to occasional strikes opposed by management.

The various Westinghouse companies were the product of the mechanical inventiveness and the business acumen of George Westinghouse. He influenced the growth of railroads through his inventions and his promotion of the use of electricity for power and transportation. As a manager, his effect on industrial history is considerable, having formed and directed more than 60 companies to market his and others' inventions during his lifetime.

At the turn of the century, the various Westinghouse companies were worth about $120 million and employed approximately 50,000 workers.



Westinghouse's 5,000-kilowatt generators on the floor of the power house of the Manhattan Interborough Rapid Transit Co., 1904.

The financial panic of 1907 caused George Westinghouse to lose control of the companies he had founded and, by 1911, he had severed all ties to them. Spending much of his later life in public service, Westinghouse died on March 12, 1914. His last of 361 patents was received in 1918, four years after his death.

The motion pictures taken of the Westinghouse Works are available online with photographs of the companies taken from promotional literature published at the time. Short essays offer background information about the history of the companies and George Westinghouse, and an excerpt from *The Wilmerding News* in 1904 offers a view of what life was like in Wilmerding, the home of the Air Brake Co. The motion pictures are from the Library's well-known Paper Print Collection, films that were deposited for copyright as positive paper prints, rather than on celluloid rolls. They were recently converted to 35mm prints, which were copied to Betacam sp videotape and were digitized into two formats, MPEG and Quicktime, which offers a choice to the viewer.

—Karen C. Lund works for the National Digital Library (NDL) Program in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division (MBRS). She worked on this project with Gene DeAnna, Hussein Hassan and Judi Hoffman, also of MBRS, and Marc Dudley and Glenn Ricci of the NDL Program.

News from the Center for the Book

Role of Public Libraries in Adult Literacy Discussed

"I sincerely hope that literacy and library professionals across the country will take up the report's challenge and do everything in their power to protect and develop the public library role in adult literacy."

—Gail Spangenberg

"The release of this report combined with changes in federal funding presents state library agencies with a renewed opportunity to reshape a role for themselves in literacy programs."

—Bridget L. Lamont

"We need to pay attention to the report's call for national leadership and to its recommendations for closer collaboration between libraries and community literacy groups."

—Maggi Gaines

"From a researcher's perspective, we need to learn more about how the special characteristics of libraries, e.g. their diverse clientele, public setting and widespread uses of technology, can help us provide better adult literacy and education services."

—Daniel Wagner

Forty-one library and literacy leaders participated in "Public Libraries in Adult Literacy: The Next Steps," a Literacy Policy Forum at the Library of Congress on Jan. 17 sponsored by the Center for the Book and the National Center on Adult Literacy at the University of Pennsylvania. The purpose of the forum was to discuss the recommendations and conclusions in *Even Anchors Need Guidelines: Public Libraries in Adult Literacy,* a 144-page study commissioned by the Center for the Book and released in fall 1996 (see LC *Information Bulletin,* Sept. 16, 1996, for a summary of the report's recommendations).

The report, which is accompanied by a 321-page data book, was prepared by Gail Spangenberg of Spangenberg Learning Resources, who was vice president and operating head of the Business Council for Effective Literacy from 1983 to 1993. Funding for the report was provided by the Center for the Book, the National Institute for Literacy, Harold W. McGraw Jr., McGraw-Hill Cos. and the American Library Association. Copies of the report, an executive summary and the data book were distributed at the forum.

Tom Phelps of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Sally Anderson from the Vermont Center for the Book and Diane Frankel of the Institute of Museum and Library Services at the reception during the forum on adult literacy.

Gail Spangenberg of Spangenberg Learning Resources prepared the report that was the basis for the symposium on adult literacy held at the Library Jan. 17.

John Y. Cole, moderator and director of the Center for the Book, welcomed the participants and thanked Gail Spangenberg for her report and research. On behalf of the report's sponsors, he also thanked the 24 report advisers and the nearly 200 people who had participated by answering questionnaires. He also noted that while the Center for the Book was not in a position to implement any of the report's recommendations directly, it "plans to work with appropriate national reading promotion partners — including many groups represented at this meeting — in moving the recommendations forward."

There were four brief presentations prior to the general discussion. Ms. Spangenberg began with several

observations about the report itself. Her talk was followed by comments from speakers who represented different segments of the literacy and library communities: Bridget L. Lamont, director, Illinois State Library; Maggi G. Gaines, director, Baltimore City Literacy Corporation; and Daniel A. Wagner, director, National Center on Adult Literacy.

Ms. Spangenberg addressed her recommendations for funding, stressing the need to restore earmarked funding for library literacy programming — in the federal sector, in state block grants or both. She also discussed other recommendations, including the need for deeper involvement in library literacy by state librarians and the philanthropic community; and the need for a "national planning alliance" and for greater leadership at the national level. Regarding technology, she called for a greater commitment "to the wider use of technology in public libraries for the advancement of library literacy programs."

Comments from participants in the general discussion included observations about the report, recommendations for next steps and information about current activities that relate to the report's recommendations. Diane Frankel, director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, stressed the importance of focused collaborations between libraries and museums, and also with other organizations that are part of a community's educational sector. Peggy Barber of the American Library Association (ALA) described the new ALA-Lila Wallace/Reader's Digest Fund library-based adult literacy initiative and introduced Project Director Donna Grant.

Sheila Murphy of the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund provided further information about the project, which will work intensively with 13 leading library literacy programs for the next three years. Jane Heiser of the Department of Education provided background information about federal library funding and said that libraries need to do more "to convince people that we are a viable provider — that libraries are an important part of education." Jon Randall of the Literacy Volunteers of America (LVA) discussed funding issues and cooperative efforts between libraries and literacy programs at the local level.

Donna Grant of the American Library Association and Susan O'Connor of the Brooklyn Public Library at the literacy forum. Ms. Grant is the project director for the new ALA-Lila Wallace/Reader's Digest Fund adult literacy initiative.

Consultant Dan Lacy, who encouraged the undertaking of the Spangenberg study, stressed the need for librarians to emphasize what they do best (provide materials and services and access to both) and to cooperate with groups such as LVA when it comes to literacy instruction. He also reminded the audience that, because of the way libraries are governed and funded at the local level, communities that are "information-poor" are also likely to be the communities "that have the least local funding to serve that need." Therefore, it was important "that there be state and federal funding that can address the needs of the poor."

Adrian Chute of the National Center for Educational Statistics proposed a way of following up on the recommendation in the report about creating a national library literacy data collection system. Andy Hartman of the National Institute for Literacy described the current literacy funding situation and complemented Gail Spangenberg for identifying important issues that were "even bigger" than the library literacy issue.

In closing the meeting and speaking on behalf of both the Center for the Book and the National Center on Adult Literacy, John Cole thanked all the participants and said that he hoped that this was only the first of several symposia on this topic. He also said that copies of the executive summary of the report and a limited number of copies of the report and data volume were still available from the Center for the Book.

Correction

Because of an editing error, the dates attributed to Harold Spivacke, former Music Division chief, were incorrect on page 26 of the Jan. 27 LC *Information Bulletin*. The dates 1896-1983 refer to Ira Gershwin.

Standard to Be Developed for Digital Talking Book

The digital talking book, the next-generation library access medium for blind and physically handicapped individuals, took a step closer to reality.

Frank Kurt Cylke, director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS), announced that NLS has initiated the development of a technical standard through the National Information Standards Organization (NISO).

A major development for the NLS program, the NISO digital talking-book standard will address problems of control, audio quality, media compatibility, copyright protection, ease of international interlibrary loan and affordability. Parties participating will include patrons, patron advocacy organizations, media producers (both volunteer and commercial), rights owners, equipment producers and librarians.

NISO is the only organization accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to develop and maintain technical standards for information services, libraries, publishers and others involved in the business of creation, storage, preservation, sharing, accession and dissemination of data. There are currently more than 50 American National Standards in use.

"At present, library access for patrons is well served by analog cassette tape technology," Mr. Cylke said. "This technology has enjoyed the acceptance and economy found in the consumer entertainment market for more than two decades. However, as digital technology gains favor in the marketplace, analog cassettes are likely to become less attractive from both the financial and consumer-preference standpoints. These two forces, economic and preferential, will ultimately converge to motivate change. This NISO standard-development program will allow the change from analog to digital to be controlled and consistent with the interests of all concerned."

In announcing the project, NLS research and development officer Michael Moodie, who will direct project activities, outlined the scope and application of the digital talking-book standard.

According to Mr. Moodie, "The standard will define minimum performance requirements for next-generation patron-access equipment and will also describe optional features. The standard will be written in a digital context, but it will not define the software or hardware internals of a particular implementation or type of equipment. Emphasis will be on performance characteristics and control. Potential implementers would include manufacturers of digital and analog hardware, developers of multimedia authoring and presentation software, and media producers."

Patricia Harris, executive director of NISO, announced that NLS, as the sponsoring organization, will chair the standards development committee. Representatives will be invited from the American Council of the Blind, Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired, American Foundation for the Blind, American Printing House for the Blind, Blinded Veterans Association, National Federation of the Blind, and Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic. Other organizations from both the public and private sectors will be included, along with representatives of engineering and library interests.

Commenting on the complexity of the undertaking, John Cookson, head of the NLS Engineering Section, said, "The impact on users moving from existing practices to the new digital standard must range from 'virtually transparent' (products seemingly the same to the user but with technical improvements) to 'profound' (products with a range of options for the more technologically sophisticated patron).

Holder

Cont'd from page 69

the nation is headed tomorrow. For example, 30 percent of white babies are now born to unwed young mothers, and the teenage violence of the inner cities has traveled to the suburbs. According to Mr. Holder, social problems cannot be isolated; a problem affecting one group will spread to others. Black history is America's history, and black problems are America's problems.

The fact that America needs an African American History Month testifies to another problem. American history, as taught in schools today, is "divorced" from the true role played by blacks, he said. "Americans should begin to focus on the history of black citizens. Recognition of major black figures must become part of the standard curriculum in our schools." Although African Americans by the thousands faced lynchings, racial discrimination and economic hardship, they have achieved notable and significant accomplishments. Mr. Holder cited the names of Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, Martin Luther King Jr., Joe Louis, Jackie Robinson, Ralph Ellison, Paul Robeson, Marian Anderson and Rosa Parks, among others.

"We owe them all a debt of gratitude.... We must appreciate and acknowledge our unique black past."

—Bernice Tell

Ms. Tell is a Washington free-lance writer.

Indonesian Holdings Subject of LC Bibliography

The Library has published *Unveiling Indonesia — Indonesian Holdings in the Library of Congress: A Bibliography*, a two-volume, comprehensive bibliography of English-language resources on Indonesia.

Compiled by A. Kohar Rony, Southern Asia area specialist in the Library's Asian Division, the bibliography contains nearly 17,000 entries and three indexes — name, subject and title.

Indonesia has been an important leader in Southeast Asia since its independence in 1945. The country continues to be of great interest — historically, politically and economically — to scholars, businessmen, political leaders, and others. This bibliography will provide access to the Library's vast holdings on this region.

Unveiling Indonesia is divided into 30 subject areas, including reference and general works, geography, ethnic groups, media, libraries, museology, history, demography, migration, rural and urban development, social systems, language, religion and popular beliefs, agriculture and economics, education, government and legal systems and foreign relations. Formats covered range from reference works to audio-visual materials.

The Library's collections on Indonesia include pre-World War II materials. Substantial portions of the collections, however, date from 1964, when the Library established a field office in Jakarta and started a special acquisitions program.

Unveiling Indonesia, with eight illustrations, is available for $74. It can be purchased from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. When ordering, cite stock number 030-000-00273-3. Credit card orders are taken at (202) 512-1800 and fax orders at (202) 512-2250.

"The foregoing impact statement focuses on the blind and physically handicapped patron. However, there is an infrastructure of 'users' who support and implement the library system. This wider community includes librarians, producers of talking books and magazines, both commercial and volunteer, equipment manufacturers and software developers. The new standard will, again, range from transparent to profound in impact on this community. For example, audio studios may continue to narrate into conventional analog equipment while their product would become usable only by processing through digital encoding software that is not found in today's production stream," Mr. Cookson concluded.

Wells B. Kormann, chief of staff of the NLS Materials Development Division, said, "The entire user community will be motivated to use this standard. The existing system is analog cassette tape, while the standard will define a system that will be digitally based but not restricted to any particular distribution media or implementation. Because of this fundamental incompatibility, change from the existing system will require a transition where use of both systems overlap. Time frames for introduction of new equipment are dependent on the commercial development and availability of adaptable consumer electronic hardware and software products."

According to Mr. Kormann, "Anticipating an additional 10 years of acceptable and economical use for cassette tape means that the standard must be finished within five years to allow for a five-year transition period."

In closely related activities, NLS has also researched other standards, including MPEG-4, which is an ISO/IEC standard in development under JTC1/SC29/WG11. Also related are HyTime, the Information technology-Hypermedia/Time-based Structuring Language ISO/IEC 10744, and the Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML), ISO 8879.

Lester Horton Exhibition At Kennedy Center

Lester Horton (1906-1953), dancer, teacher and choreographer, is generally acknowledged to be among the founders of American modern dance. His dance company included well-known performers such as Bella Lewitzky, Carmen de Lavallade, Alvin Ailey and James Truitte. This exhibition of photographs, publicity and performance shots of his original choreographies or of reconstructions mounted after his death is on view at the Performing Arts Library of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts through April 5. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday noon to 8 p.m.

Preview of a Major Exhibition

'Treasures' to Begin Going On-Line in Mid-March

A preview of a major exhibition at the Library, "American Treasures of the Library of Congress," will be available on the Library's World Wide Web site at http://www.loc.gov in mid-March. The permanent exhibition will open to the public in the Library's Jefferson Building on May 1. Because of preservation considerations, some of the items will be on view temporarily.

One of the treasures on display will be the earliest copyrighted motion picture, of Fred Ott's sneeze (left), from the laboratory-studio of Thomas A. Edison in West Orange, N.J.

Edison began thinking about the development of motion pictures in 1888 after studying the successful motion-sequence still photographic experiments of Eadweard Muybridge and Étienne-Jules Marey. By early 1889, Edison had conceived the ambitious notion that it must be possible to record motion as perceived by the human eye and play it back in real time. His idea was to go beyond his predecessors, who had adapted the existing photographic equipment of the day to record brief sequences of motion and invent an entirely new technology to do "for the eye what the phonograph does for the ear."

To turn his new invention into reality, Edison assigned responsibility to one of his best assistants, a young Englishman named W.K.L. Dickson. By June of 1891 Dickson produced a series of successful experimental motion pictures that were shown to visiting groups at the Edison Laboratory in New Jersey. Over the next two years, Dickson worked to perfect the two basic machines required for successful motion pictures: a device to record moving images, which he and Edison called the Kinetograph, and a machine to view the results, which they called the Kinetoscope. A major problem that slowed Dickson's work in the beginning was the nonexistence in the commercial marketplace of another essential invention — motion picture film stock. After Eastman Kodak began supplying quantities of reliable film stock in the fall of 1893, the road to commercial development of the movies was opened.

"The Edison Kinetoscopic Record of a Sneeze" is one of a series of short films made by Dickson in January 1894 for advertising purposes. The star is Fred Ott, an Edison employee known to his fellow workers in the laboratory for his comic sneezing and other gags. The item was received in the Library on Jan. 9, 1894, as a copyright deposit from Dickson and is the earliest surviving copyrighted motion picture.

— *from* American Treasures of the Library of Congress, *a catalog published by Harry N. Abrams Inc. in association with theLibrary of Congress*

Scedule of Concerts from The Library Goes On-Line With Web Site

The Library of Congress concert series leaps into cyberspace this season with its new home page. Modeled after the 1996-97 season brochure, the concert home page includes the entire season at a glance. In addition, each event has its own link to repertoire and artist information, and it can be accessed from the concert home page with just a click of the mouse. The address of the concert home page is http://www.loc.gov/rr/perform/concert/.

CONCERTS FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library's concert home page can be accessed from the Library of Congress main home page at http://www.loc.gov/.

To access the concert home page from the Library's web site, click on "Special Programs." Scroll down the "Special Programs and Services" page and click on the "Library of Congress Concert Series."

All Library of Congress concerts at the Terrace Theater of the John F, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts are free and open to the public, but tickets are required and must be picked up in person. They cannot be reserved by e-mail or by telephone. Ticket distribution will begin at 6 p.m. in the lobby of the Terrace Theater, 90 minutes before concert time. Seating will be on a first-come, first-served basis, with two general admission tickets per patron. In addition to our new home page, information about the concert series can be obtained by calling the concert line at (202) 707-5502.

Budget

Cont'd from page 67

fund several nonpayroll priorities (e.g., auditor fees) from existing funds, the shift in fiscal 1997 resources will cause a projected reduction of another seven FTEs.

Since the Library's services are extremely labor intensive (some 70 percent of our budget is for payroll costs), future economies must come primarily from reengineering our major operations and from investing further in automation; both steps will improve the productivity of our staff. The Library's fiscal 1998 budget requests an increase of $6.1 million for automation projects needed to improve internal operations and make the collections more accessible. The investment in better automation now will greatly improve service and save money in the long term. The investment Congress made during the late 1980s and early 1990s in the Library's automation program made possible both the rapid implementation of THOMAS [an Internet-based congressional database] in 1994 and the first release of a retrieval component of the Legislative Information System in January 1997.

If we are to stay at the cutting edge ... we must invest today in three automation projects — the Integrated Library System, the Copyright Office Electronic Registration, Recordation and Deposit System (CORDS) and the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN).

Funding our fiscal 1998 budget request, including provisions for mandatory pay and price-level increases, will enable the Library to sustain its basic services while continuing to modernize its operations for the future.

It would bring the Library"s automated systems up to the level now being achieved by other major research libraries in America.

If this request cannot be granted, and we are, as a result, required to make further staff cuts before major productivity projects are implemented, we would make reductions in accordance with our priorities. We would regrettably have to begin fairly rapidly to reduce public programs — particularly those which ... serve the nongovernmental Washington area, such as public reading room hours, reference support and local access to the Library's buildings. We would reduce further, if not eliminate altogether, exhibits, publications and other outreach programs.

Future generations will not forgive us if we fail to make electronically accessible via the Internet the Library's unique and useful materials at precisely the moment when the Library's proven technological capability to provide such access is enjoying enthusiastic public — and growing private — support. In short, we believe that Congress should sustain its fruitful investment in the Library and not let erode the great institution it has wisely created and supported for 197 years.

The Library of Congress Today

The core of the Library is its incomparable collections — and the specialists who interpret and share them. The Library's 111 million items cover more than 530 miles of shelf space and include research materials in more than 450 languages and almost all media through which knowledge and creativity are preserved and communicated.

The Library has more than 26 million volumes, including 5,700 volumes printed before the year 1500; 13 million prints, photographs and posters; 4 million maps, old and new; 700,000 reels of film, including the earliest movies and television shows; 4 million pieces of music; 48 million pages of personal papers and manuscripts, including those of 23 presidents; and hundreds of thousands of scientific and government documents.

New treasures are added each year. Recent acquisitions, to name a few, include the collection of Marian S. Carson, the nation's most extensive private collection of Americana, which includes the earliest photographs ever taken of a human face and of an urban scene, as well as more than 10,000 manuscripts, rare books, broadsides, photographs, drawings, prints and other original documents; the personal papers and several hundred original drawings of cartoonist, playwright and screenwriter Jules Feiffer; the collection of jazz great Ella Fitzgerald, comprising some 10,000 music scores; and important rare books such as Antonio de Medina's *Viaggio di terra Santa* (1590), an extremely rare and richly illustrated Italian translation of a Spanish pilgrimage to the eastern Mediterranean.

Every day the Library's staff takes in 7,000 new items for its collections, organizes them, catalogs them and finds ways to share them with Congress and the nation — through online access across the nation, through in-person access in the Library's reading rooms and through cultural programs that feature the Library's collections and reach across the country.

The Library of Congress programs and activities are funded by four salaries and expenses (S&E) appropriations, which support congressional services, national library services, copyright administration and library services to blind and physically handicapped people. A separate appropriation funds furniture and furnishings. Major services ... include annually providing responses to some 500,000 congressional requests, registering more than 560,000 copyright claims, cataloging some 300,000 books and serials, and circulating more than 23 million audio and braille books and magazines to blind and physically handicapped individuals all across America. The Library also now processes some 1 million Internet transactions every day (which provide access to the Library's on-line information files that contain more than 40 million records).

The Library has become a world leader in providing high quality content for the expanding Internet, and was recently cited by *Time* magazine, among others, as one of the best Web sites of 1996. Congress — and this committee in particular — has made it possible for the Library to help bring the legislative branch into the Information Age.

The Library's Planning Efforts

During fiscal 1996, the Library developed a Management Improvement Plan (MIP) to focus its efforts on implementing the Library's priorities:

1. Provide support to the U.S. Congress.
2. Preserve, secure and sustain a universal collection.
3. Make the Library's collections maximally accessible.
4. Enhance the educational value of the Library's collections.

The MIP also addressed the useful recommendations contained in two reports commissioned by GAO and completed in 1996 — a management review conducted by Booz-Allen & Hamilton and a financial audit conducted by Price Waterhouse LLP. The MIP contains nine parts: plans and programs; security (of people, facilities, collections and data systems); management-employee communications; training and development; accountability mechanisms; support functions' efficiency and responsiveness; streamlined management processes; financial management; and broader understanding and appreciation of the Library.

The updated [strategic] plan focuses on maintaining high-quality service to Congress; on continuing our investment in technology to modernize operations and provide more information to the broader public; on improving security for our staff, collections, facilities and the public; and on improving our human resources management. The Library's vision for the 21st century is to "lead the nation in ensuring access to knowledge and information for Congress and its constituents in order to educate and enrich society." The United States has, and must continue to have, the fin-

est national library in the world.

With that background, I am happy to present the Library's fiscal 1998 budget request, relating it to our priorities:

1. Support to the U.S. Congress

The first priority of the Library of Congress is, and will remain, to serve the information and research needs of Congress. The Congressional Research Service, the Law Library, the Loan Division and other elements of the Library of Congress provide a cost-effective, shared resource that serves all committees and members in a nonpartisan manner.

[The Library] seeks funding for 25 additional FTEs in the Congressional Research Service (CRS) as part of a multiyear succession plan. By 2006 nearly 52 percent of the CRS staff will be eligible to retire. This poses a significant threat to the ability of CRS to maintain its current analytic and information services unless training of replacement staff can begin soon, under the tutelage of the senior staff who are eligible for retirement.

As directed by the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 1997, the Library and CRS worked with the House, the Senate and legislative agencies to put into production the initial release of a new retrieval component of the legislative information system (LIS). The committee's recent approval of the Library's fiscal 1997 reprogramming request will permit the continued improvement of the retrieval component during fiscal 1997 and 1998. ... The purpose of the LIS is to improve the efficiency of dissemination of information for the legislative branch and to avoid unnecessary duplication of information. The LIS will provide Congress with far greater on-line access to a variety of legislative documentation, including: full-text legislation, bill summaries, committee reports, floor schedules, and the *Congressional Record*.

In addition to the retrieval component of the LIS, the Library has participated in a number of discussions and meetings with legislative branch staff to support the establishment of a program for the exchange of information between legislative branch entities. ... The Library is awaiting further direction from the Committee on House Oversight and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

CRS also completed a major initiative during the past year to improve on-line delivery of its products and services. All CRS issue briefs are now available electronically to congressional offices through the CRS home page. ... CRS continuously updates, refines and improves the availability of information on the CRS home page to ensure that we remain responsive to congressional needs.

For its part, the Law Library is rapidly expanding its multinational electronic database, called the Global Legal Information Network (GLIN), to ensure that Congress has rapid and reliable information on foreign, international and comparative law. GLIN made its debut on the Library's home page in July 1996. Member nations are contributing abstracts and full text of laws at the rate of 15 entries per day and growing. Eleven members are participating via the Internet, and the Library projects that GLIN membership will soon increase to 15-20 nations.

The fiscal 1998 budget requests $223,362 and three additional FTEs to support the expansion of GLIN. The Library has been funding GLIN so far by reallocating existing resources, and NASA has provided satellite communications support. In addition, international agencies (e.g., the World Bank) have provided support to participating nations.

We project that GLIN will attract at least 50 members by 2002 and will create an easy-to-use database, allowing faster service to Congress. It should eventually produce savings to the Library's budget as other nations begin sharing the costs to acquire, catalog and make accessible international laws.

2. Preserve, Secure and Sustain a Universal Collection

The second priority of the Library of Congress is to preserve, secure and sustain for the present and future use of Congress and the nation a universal collection of human knowledge, including comprehensive records of American history and creativity.

The fiscal 1998 budget request supports this priority by funding several major items:

■ Library Materials

A price-level increase of $1,161,000 is necessary to sustain purchasing power at fiscal 1995 levels and to recoup fiscal 1996 and 1997 price-level increases for books, machine-readable works and other materials. Many of these are foreign publications — on all subjects — that are purchased from countries with high rates of inflation. The amount of material we can afford to purchase from appropriated funds has declined seriously — from 930,747 pieces in fiscal 1992 to 707,695 pieces in fiscal 1996. We cannot permit further erosion in these acquisitions — particularly since these reductions disproportionately hurt precisely those foreign acquisitions which only the Library of Congress makes and which often have growing importance for our international competitiveness. We should not risk depleting what is, in effect, the nation's strategic information reserve. It will have many uses tomorrow that we cannot even imagine today.

■ Copyright Office

The fiscal 1998 budget request also supports a growing workload increase of *five FTEs and $304,179 to continue implementation of the Copyright Office's pioneering Electronic Registration, Recordation and Deposit System (CORDS).* We have reached a critical point in the development and implementation of CORDS. The Copyright Office has proved during its pilot of 1996 that electronic registration and deposit works. ... CORDS will both (1) help the Copyright Office streamline its complex internal registration, recordation, and deposit processes; and (2) provide the Library with copies of new copyrighted works in digital form for its collections.

Reengineering the Copyright Office's registration processes and integrating them with the Library's acquisition and cataloging processes is critical to the long-term cost-effectiveness of operations. Electronic publishing is growing exponentially; and the Library must be a leader in testing and demonstrating the means to acquire, authenticate, store securely and provide authorized access to this vast body of new copyrighted works in electronic form. CORDS is a crucial component.

For many years, the Copyright Office has been steadily increasing overall productivity even as its staff has shrunk. In fiscal 1980, a staff of 628 FTEs processed 483,000 claims; in 1996, a staff of 471 FTEs processed 609,000 claims representing more than 700,000 works. At the simplest level, the staff in 1996 is 25 percent lower than in 1980, yet it processed more than 26 percent more claims. More recently, however, the Copyright Office has been able to keep up ... only by using overtime and additional temporary help. By the end of fiscal 1995, the steady loss of trained staff (particularly examiners, whose number fell from 64 to 49 FTEs in three years) ... resulted in growing backlogs. The registration processing period has grown alarmingly from a norm of five to seven weeks in 1993 to more than 18 weeks now.

To stem this growing backlog, the Copyright Office requests additional funding of $538,953 and 14 FTEs. Fiscal relief can come in the future through a legislated ability to increase the fee schedule, but a temporary increase for fiscal 1998 is needed to cope with the current workload.

■ Security

A fiscal 1998 increase of $1.3 million is requested to improve security. A number of needed security improvements have been funded by changing the priority for existing resources and by reprogramming resources, such as the recently approved reprogram-

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ming of fiscal 1997 funds that has enabled us to hire our new director of security. We have made major efforts here, as supported by Congress.

A key component of the collections security program is the reader registration program. Under this program, each researcher using the reading rooms is required to provide positive identification. Once such identification, such as photo ID with address, is presented, the Library issues a Reader Identification Card to the individual with the person's photo and signature, as well as a machine readable card number. Thus, patron information is available for management — including the ... Office of the Inspector General, if necessary.

The funding requested ($393,410) will permit the operation of two reader registration stations, one in the Thomas Jefferson Building and one in the James Madison Building. The Library anticipates issuing 100,000 Reader Identification Cards annually.

The fiscal 1998 budget proposes *$417,035 and 18 FTEs for additional police officers.* Seven additional police FTEs are needed to staff posts in the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building when it reopens after renovation in 1997. ... Authorization for a total of 11 additional police FTEs is also necessary to reduce the present police overtime rate. In fiscal year 1996, the Library contracted with Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) to conduct a comprehensive survey. ... CSC's report indicated that Library police are currently understaffed to accomplish their mission and must work excessive overtime, which reduces their effectiveness. The Library's goal is to reduce police overtime, now computed at approximately 26,000 hours per year (roughly 25 percent of total scheduled hours), to approximately 10,000 hours (roughly 10 percent of total scheduled hours).

Funding for $268,000 in nonpersonal increases is also needed to train and uniform the new police, to support contract staffing for two new cloakrooms, for installation and maintenance of security equipment and for contract support of some nonpolice functions.

The copyright system is a major source of acquisitions for the Library. The high volume and great variety of materials that come in daily ... and are temporarily stored in tubs, on book trucks and on open shelves while awaiting processing create a point of serious vulnerability. ... A key need ... is to gain item-level control at the earliest point of entry into the Library.

The fiscal 1998 budget requests *$242,072 and six FTEs* to apply magnetic strips and accession labels to all works as soon as they enter the Library through copyright.

We are developing a Library Security Management Plan to integrate recommendations from CSC and others into a management level framework for ... implementation of efficient, cost-effective solutions. The Library's ... new director of security will oversee the implementation of this plan.

■ Integrated Library System (ILS)

Essential to improved security and overall process improvements is the Library's request for a *$5.6 million increase to purchase and install an Integrated Library System.*

This initiative builds on our previously identified need to provide inventory control over our collections through the conversion of two very large manual files — our shelflist of over 12 million cards and our serial record file with cards for almost 900,000 serial titles. These files constitute the only comprehensive record of which book and serial copies have been added to the Library's collections over the course of nearly 200 years.

An integrated library system is essential. ... Currently, there is no Library-wide system for recording what we have and where it is. The security of the Library's collections depends to a very large degree on our procuring an automated system that will allow us to document and to track collection materials on a continuing basis from the point they enter the Library.

The time has come when we must begin the systematic and overall replacement of our several separate, outmoded computer systems. These systems have served us well for over 25 years. ... But these legacy systems are simply not adequate to support us [now]. ... We need a single system that integrates all major functional areas, such as cataloging, acquisitions and circulation.

Better automation support will enable Library staff to be more productive, permitting the Library to deliver existing products and services with a smaller work force. For example, by streamlining cataloging, by eliminating inefficient and error-prone rekeying in several areas, by reducing duplicate acquisitions and by minimizing the handling of materials, we expect to be able to reallocate substantial resources to other critical mission work, such as collection security. We estimate that we will be able to reallocate approximately $6 million per year to high-priority mission work once the new system is fully in place in six years.

Overall, systems replacement will result in greatly improved service by providing a simple yet powerful public catalog, up-to-date information about the status and availability of materials in our collections and easily traversed connections to a wide variety of research tools, including the rich resources of the National Digital Library.

■ Preservation

Congress approved our plan two years ago to expend no-year funds previously appropriated for mass deacidification development in order to work with a private firm to improve the Bookkeeper process and then to begin deacidifying books on a limited scale. For the first time since we began our search for a mass deacidification process 20 years ago, the Library moved beyond research and testing during the past year and began deacidifying books from the Library's collections, committing ourselves to deacidifying 72,000 books using the Bookkeeper process. We successfully treated 25,000 books in fiscal 1996 from the general collections, the Law Library and the Asian Division and expect to treat an additional 47,000 books in fiscal 1997.

There is more good news on the preservation front. As a result of installing a state-of-the-art audio preservation system to digitize audio materials, the Library took a giant step in 1996 toward preserving and increasing access to these hitherto little-used materials in the Library's collections. This system's impressive features will allow the Library to preserve and restore at least 80 percent of its audio collections, including more than 98 percent of the audio cylinders, at an unprecedented level of quality and to undertake research essential for the preservation of digital audio data.

■ Arrearage Reduction

Arrearage reduction efforts remain a major Library enterprise. Despite steady reductions in staff, we continued during fiscal 1996 to reduce the backlog of unprocessed materials — by 1.5 million items — while remaining current with new receipts. As of Dec. 31, 1996, we have achieved a cumulative 48 percent decrease in our backlog since the arrearage reduction project began. ... [but] we have reached the point where any further reductions in staff (before the cataloging process is reengineered), which would result from not funding mandatory pay increases, would seriously slow — and could reverse — the continued success in this major effort.

3. *Make the Library's Collections Maximally Accessible*

Congress ... established in 1931 a program in the Library of Congress that creates and supplies free library materials to blind and physically handicapped readers throughout the country. Administered by the National

Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, this service actually began in 1897 when the new Library of Congress building opened with a special reading room for blind patrons.

The fiscal 1998 budget request includes a *growing workload increase of $2,500,000 for procurement of audio cassette book machines.* Approximately 10,000 units will be added to those currently scheduled. These machines will permit service without interruption and waiting lists.

Congress approved and funded the National Digital Library program as part of the fiscal 1996 budget. This is a public-private partnership to digitize the most important and interesting historical Americana materials from the Library for viewing by American citizens, in schools, libraries and homes everywhere. The overall plan is to digitize 5 million items by the year 2000 — the Library's bicentennial. We are increasingly working in collaboration with other great American repositories with unique materials; and we are on schedule with our public-private partnership for raising the $60 million needed over the five-year period from 1996 to 2000: $15 million from Congress and $45 million from the private sector.

This pathbreaking public-private partnership has so far generated the direct contribution by the private sector of $23.4 million, matched by the congressional appropriation of $3 million per year beginning in fiscal 1996.

The Library has 18 large and unique collections on-line, fascinating archives of American history that have drawn wide public acclaim. They attract more than 3 million electronic hits a month. The National Digital Library Program was featured at the National Educational Summit attended by all state governors in April of 1996 and has been cited by ... [many] sources as one of the best of all Internet Web sites.

To date we have multiyear contracts in place for digitizing more than 1.7 million digital items in addition to the more than 300,000 already archived. We have established a dozen ways to process and convert collections materials to digital form and to develop new technical standards for storing and sharing these items electronically. Operationally, we have built an efficient organization which will work to integrate this five-year public-private effort into the internal functions of the institution. Our pioneering work in making high-quality content electronically available in a reliable and user-friendly format is providing valuable experience for our (and other libraries') overall programs of electronic modernization.

Standards and best practices will be crucial to the handling of electronic materials. Our Copyright Office is creating a system and technical architecture that will also handle full documents (digital objects) and is working closely with Library Services and the National Digital Library Program to develop an infrastructure for the future.

4. Enhance the Educational Value of the Library's Collections

Through interpretive and educational programs, the Library shares its rich collections of printed books, manuscripts, prints and photographs, maps, sound recordings and films with the nation's citizens. The Library's World Wide Web site has been particularly useful in reaching its various constituencies, including the general public.

Electronic exhibits, one of the most popular areas on the Web site, permit people who cannot journey to Washington to view in their own localities materials from the Library's exhibits and to learn about their significance in the history of mankind. Electronic exhibits are cost-effective — permitting the public everywhere to enjoy and benefit from them long after the physical exhibit has been dismantled. Library-developed publications are also becoming increasingly available on the Web, and active collaboration with publishers has resulted in an increased public awareness of the extraordinary and unique materials in the collections.

The Library's interpretive and educational programs are fourth-priority activities and have thus been made heavily dependent on private funding for their operation. ... The Library's private fund-raising has resulted in generous contributions from donors and from the James Madison Council in support of exhibits, scholarly programs and publications. In fiscal 1996, we raised $10.6 million in new pledges and nonpledge philanthropic gifts with one of the smallest development offices of any major national cultural institution.

In the year 2000, the Library of Congress will celebrate its bicentenary. Our 200th birthday provides the opportunity to heighten the nation's awareness and utilization of the Library as a major resource for Congress and the American people as we enter the new millennium in the midst of the Information Age.

Planning is under way for a national celebration with advice and participation from Congress as well as the library, scholarly and educational communities. The National Digital Library Program, through which the Library's collections directly reach American citizenry, is a key element of the celebration.

Preliminary plans include on-site and digitized exhibitions on Thomas Jefferson, democracy and knowledge, and on the history of the Library of Congress in American life; an illustrated history of the Library; the issuance of a commemorative stamp; congressional authorization of a Bicentennial Advisory Commission and a commemorative coin series; national television and radio programming; and events at local levels. Most of the funding will come from private sources.

■ The Enabling Infrastructure

The key [strategic plan] objectives are motivating and mobilizing human resources, efficiently delivering electronic services and using space and equipment, and providing modern financial and information systems.

In December 1996 the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia approved the final settlement of the *Cook* class-action lawsuit, which dates back to 1982. The Library has already put in place many of the agreement's provisions, including changing the selection process to ensure that it is fair and equitable; training all managers and supervisors in diversity awareness; promoting 39 class members; and reassigning three others. We are working closely with the Departments of Justice and Treasury to effect cash payments totaling $8.5 million to class members. Above and beyond the implementation of this settlement, the Library has a continuing commitment to ensure equal opportunity and fairness in all our activities.

■ Library Buildings and Grounds

Each year, the Library suggests priority capital improvement requirements to the Architect of the Capitol (AOC), and the AOC is responsible for submitting the budget request. The Library Buildings and Grounds budget request for fiscal 1998 totals $15,755,000 — a $6 million increase from fiscal 1997, primarily for capital improvements required to support Library programs.

Our prime concern has been off-site storage of Library materials at Fort Meade, Md. The Library has been working closely with the AOC on the building design for Storage Module 1, the first of several storage modules to be constructed at Fort Meade. The final designs and logistics plans will be reviewed within the next few months. Construction is expected to begin by September 1997. The AOC plans to have the facility completed in time for the Library to begin occupancy by January 1999. Additional modules ... are to be constructed and occupied over the next 10 years. ... Additional funding will be needed in the future to support this building program as we vacate existing leased storage space in Landover, Md.

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The Sound of Music

Library to Reopen Coolidge Auditorium in Fall 1997

On Oct. 30, the Library of Congress will reopen its historic Coolidge Auditorium with a season of festivals honoring the centenary of the Music Division and celebrating its magnificent collections—from music manuscripts and scores to rare instruments, artifacts, costumes and a wealth of memorabilia representing major figures in music, dance and theater.

Built in 1925 with funds donated by Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, the 500-seat auditorium is considered one of the finest acoustic environments in the world. Now newly renovated and equipped with state-of-the-art sound recording and audiovisual systems, the auditorium will once again be home to the Library's series of concerts, which have been presented elsewhere since 1990.

In addition to concerts, plans are under way for a yearlong festival of exhibits, films, lectures and other public events that will demonstrate the extraordinary range of the Music Division's collections—classical and popular music, jazz, American musical theater and dance.

Coolidge Auditorium prior to renovation

"We will continue and strengthen our commitment to superb chamber music and to commissioning and presenting new works that reflect a broad spectrum of American music," said Jon Newsom, whose appointment as chief of the Music Division was confirmed in December 1996. "Our programming for the 1997-1998 season will illustrate our history and our interest, including a Music and Cinema Week, a Brahms and Schubert Festival, a violin summit with master classes and workshops, an evening of 19th century dance in the Library's Great Hall, and the opening of the George and Ira Gershwin Room," he added.

A calendar of events for the 1997-1998 season will be posted on the Music Division's home page for the concert series, beginning in April. The address of the home page is: http://www.loc.gov/rr/perform/concert/. Individual events will be listed monthly in the Library's "Calendar of Events," which is free of charge to persons living in the Washington metropolitan area; the calendar is also available through the Library's home page at http://www.loc.gov/.

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Although the Library's plans for Fort Meade originally included building a nitrate film processing and storage facility, the Department of the Army has indicated that such a facility could not be constructed there. As a result, the Library has been exploring other alternatives. ... The Library has developed a comprehensive plan for a new National Audio-Visual Conservation Center and is now developing a funding strategy that will likely seek congressional authorization for a public-private partnership similar to that which has made the National Digital Library Program so successful.

■ Proposed Legislation

The Library is seeking legislation to allow the Copyright Office to set the fees for basic services, to improve the efficiency of the copyright arbitration process, to improve financial management activities, and to support the Library's bicentennial activities.

Much of the work that the Copyright Office performs is a service for which the public pays a fee. In the past, the ideal ratio was thought to be 66 percent funded by fees with the other 34 percent funded out of appropriated funds. The latter was considered to be a reasonable offset for the value of materials that the Library acquired through the copyright system.

Most copyright fees are set by Congress. From time to time Congress raises these fees, usually at the request of the Copyright Office. Each time the fees have been raised to reestablish the 2/3 fee-funded goal. The most recent increase was in 1991, when the fee was raised to $20.

Last year, the House of Representatives passed legislation that gives the Register the authority to set the basic fees, subject to congressional veto. The Senate did not act on this legislative proposal before adjournment. The legislation would also authorize the Library to pay arbitrators involved in the settlement of royalty distribution proceedings directly with funds coming from the relevant royalty pool. Currently, the parties to an arbitration proceeding pay the arbitrators. The fiscal year 1997 budget authorized the use of offsetting receipts to pay the arbitrators pending approval of the authorizing legislation. We are again requesting the authority to use offsetting receipts in the fiscal 1998 budget.

Members of the congressional committees with copyright jurisdiction have indicated that they continue to support these provisions and hope to introduce legislation to this effect early in the 105th Congress. Early passage of this legislation is critical, since the Copyright Office is severely hampered by a lack of staff in several essential areas, and the registration and issuance of certificates is unacceptably now taking more than 18 weeks.

The services provided by the Copyright Office are important both to copyright owners and to the economy. To provide these services in a reasonable time frame will require additional personnel, which in turn requires enactment of fee-setting authority early in the 105th Congress.

Early in the 105th Congress, we will also

Library to Hold Second Preservation Awareness Workshop

If you're like most people, you probably have old family photographs, important papers, special books in your home that are fading, yellowing and growing ever more fragile — but you don't know what to do to conserve them. The Library of Congress Preservation Directorate is holding its second annual workshop to help you learn more about handling, cleaning and storing these valuable materials.

The first preservation awareness workshop, held in 1996, proved so successful, with more than 600 people in attendance, that the Library decided to make the workshop an annual event. Once again, the general public will have an opportunity to view demonstrations and gather information from conservators and other specialists at the Library on April 15, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The daylong free event will take place in the Mumford Room, sixth floor of the Madison Building, 101 Independence Ave. S. E. Co-sponsored by the Library's Center for the Book and the Preservation Directorate, the workshop is part of the celebration of National Library Week.

Throughout the day, visitors will be able to see live demonstrations of gold tooling, paper mending, book sewing, materials testing, and matting and hinging of works of art on paper. Table displays, manned by Library staff, will provide answers to your questions and printed information on the handling, cleaning and storage of books, papers and documents, fine prints, photographs, CDs, sound recordings and motion picture film.

Last year, for example, the participants learned that storing family documents and photographs at the proper humidity and temperature is critical and that anything of value should never be stored in an attic or a basement. Many attendees also learned that photographs should never be housed in magnetic albums.

In addition to the Library's professional conservation and curatorial staff, representatives of nonprofit professional associations in the preservation field as well as companies that manufacture and distribute conservation products will be on hand to answer questions and offer other information on preservation products and issues.

The emphasis of the workshop will be on the preservation and storage of books, paper, newspaper, magnetic media and film; there will be no provision for evaluation services. Persons who have old books or rare prints whose worth they would like to have assessed should consult with a reputable rare book or print dealer.

The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world. It contains 111 million items that include more than 17 million books, 4 million maps, 13.5 million visual materials, 2 million sound recordings and 47 million manuscripts. The mission of the Library's Preservation Directorate is to preserve these collections for future generations. Founded in 1972, the preservation program has trained innumerable distinguished scientists, conservators and other experts in the preservation field; the program is also open to interns from all over the world, who learn while working with the Library's professional staff. Many of the methods developed at the Library have become standard procedures in libraries and archives worldwide.

The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress was established in 1977 to stimulate public interest in books, reading and libraries and to encourage the study of the book as an artifact, art form and means of communication. Its projects are supported by contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations.

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seek approval, as we have for the past several years, of legislation to implement improvements in our financial management as recommended by GAO. ... A key element needed to improve our financial management practices is a revolving fund to operate fee service activities.

Particularly urgent is our need for revolving fund authorization to continue operating the Library's overseas Cooperative Acquisitions Program on the same financial basis as has been done so economically for 30 years. The General Accounting Office sent a letter to the Library at the end of January which stated that the Library could not continue to retain and use all of the funds collected for operating costs without clear legislative authority. Without new revolving fund authority to operate this Cooperative Acquisitions Program, the Library would need to end a cost-effective, widely appreciated service which benefits nearly 100 research libraries throughout the nation.

■ Bicentennial Advisory Commission

Finally, the Library will be seeking authorization for an Advisory Commission to guide the planning of its bicentennial in the year 2000. The membership will be largely congressional, but will also include private citizens and representatives from other branches of government as well as the library and educational communities. The Congress of the United States created our oldest federal cultural institution, has sustained and improved it over the years and deserves to receive public credit and visibility at this 200th birthday as the greatest library patron of all time.

In only three years, the Library of Congress will mark its bicentenary. By funding fully the Library's fiscal 1998 budget request, Congress would prevent further staff reductions and the erosion of core programs that have already been reduced as a result of unfunded price level increases and other factors. This budget will enable the Library to improve internal operations through the use of new technology, to tighten the security of its staff and collections, and to position the Library to move into the 21st century with sufficient state-of-the-art services for Congress and the nation in the Information Age.

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